

What is Claimed:

1. Apparatus for analysis of a biological specimen, comprising:
  - a biological specimen carrier; and
- 5 a read/write data storage device attached to the carrier, wherein data related to an analysis of a biological specimen carried in the carrier may be stored in, and retrieved from, the data storage device.
- 10 2. The apparatus of claim 1, the biological specimen comprising a cytological specimen.
3. The apparatus of claim 1, the biological specimen carrier comprising a slide.
- 15 4. The apparatus of claim 1, the biological specimen carrier comprising a vial.
5. The apparatus of claim 1, the data storage device comprising  
20 a radio frequency identification device.
6. The apparatus of claim 1, the data storage device comprising a magnetic storage device.
- 25 7. The apparatus of claim 1, the data storage device comprising an optical storage device.
8. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the data related to the analysis of the biological specimen is an identifier, a  
30 timestamp, coordinates of a field of interest, or coordinates of a marked target zone.

9. A system for analyzing a biological specimen, comprising:  
a biological specimen carrier;

5 an imaging device configured to obtain images of a  
biological specimen carried in the carrier;

a processor implemented program for analyzing images of the  
specimen obtained by the imaging device and for identifying  
objects in the specimen from the images;

10 a microscope for viewing objects in the specimen identified  
by the processor implemented program; and

a read/write data storage device attached to the biological  
specimen carrier,

wherein data related to an analysis of the specimen may be  
stored in, and retrieved from, the data storage device.

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10. The system of claim 9, the biological specimen comprising a  
cytological specimen.

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11. The system of claim 9, the biological specimen carrier  
comprising a slide.

12. The system of claim 9, the biological specimen carrier  
comprising a vial.

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13. The system of claim 9, the data storage device comprising a  
radio frequency identification device.

14. The system of claim 9, the data storage device comprising a  
magnetic storage device.

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15. The system of claim 9, the data storage device comprising an  
optical storage medium.

16. The system of claim 9, the data comprising slide coordinates of locations of identified objects in the specimen.

17. The system of claim 9, wherein the data related to the  
5 analysis of the specimen is an identifier, a timestamp, coordinates of a field of interest, or coordinates of a marked target zone.

18. A method for analyzing a biological specimen, comprising:  
10 providing a biological specimen in a specimen carrier; and storing data related to the analysis of the specimen in a read/write data storage device attached to the specimen carrier.

19. The method of claim 18, further comprising  
15 obtaining images of the biological specimen; and analyzing the images with a processor implemented program, wherein the stored data comprises locations of objects of interest in the specimen that were identified by the image analysis.

20. The method of claim 18, the data storage device comprising a  
radio frequency identification device.

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